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Eight Top Local Organizations Take the Lead in Providing Executive Educations in the Miami Valley

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**EIGHT TOP LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS TAKE THE LEAD
IN PROVIDING EXECUTIVE EDUCATION IN THE MIAMI VALLEY**

DAYTON, Ohio — Leading and facilitating change. Aligning process, technology and people to achieve business results. Connecting people, cultures, organizations and geographies to get results in diverse markets.

Without leaders who can deliver, organizations — and communities — fail to prosper.

Eight of the most prominent organizations in the Miami Valley are joining forces to found the Center for Leadership and Executive Development, a new partnership in the Dayton area that will foster the skills that make leaders effective in today's global economy. Managed by the School of Business Administration at UD, the center will bring top-level providers of executive education to the Miami Valley for programs that address subjects local leaders deem critical.

The center will bring a level of excellence to the Miami Valley that no single corporation or organization could afford on its own, say the founding partners.

The charter partners of the center include the Miami Valley's two *Fortune 500* companies, Mead and NCR, as well as Copeland Corp., Fifth Third Bank, Premier Health Partners (Miami Valley Hospital and Good Samaritan Hospital), Reynolds & Reynolds, Standard Register and the University of Dayton.

For an annual fee of \$35,500, full partners design the curriculum and claim 80 training days each year, spread over 30 programs that will start in September and continue through June. Affiliate partners, with an annual investment of \$28,000, also receive 80 training days per year but do not help set curriculum. The center can accommodate about 15 full partners and 30 affiliate members.

For each educational program, any seats that remain will be available to local executives

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from outside the center's membership. Costs will range from \$750 to \$1,500 per day.

The idea for the center grew out of the University's Corporate Executive Council, a group of local executives that advises Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M., president, on current trends in industry.

"In speaking with our CEC members, we kept hearing that the Miami Valley lacked resources in leadership and executive development," said Shelley Outlaw, UD's director of corporate relations. "A common complaint was that sending executives to out-of-town sessions was expensive and inconvenient. And, through these conversations, we learned that many organizations were individually buying the same learning experiences from different suppliers at relatively high costs."

Richard Walsh, director of the center, said the CEC challenges led to marketing studies. "The idea emerged to pool our resources to bring national education providers to Dayton. The marketing studies revealed that by forming a partnership, we could achieve economies of scale and deliver programs and services at the quality and cost our members desired."

Beginning this fall, sessions will be offered in leading and facilitating change, achieving organization effectiveness, developing leaders, thinking strategically, driving results in diverse markets and broadening leadership perspectives. Providers will come from the nation's most respected centers of executive education, such as Harvard University, the Wharton School of Business and the Center for Creative Leadership.

"Engaging our partners, and ensuring that programs and service meet their strategic needs is critical," said Walsh, who previously served as director of leadership and professional development at NCR. "Our intention is to customize the programs and services around the strategic priorities of our partners. By providing executive assessments, we can also tailor an individual's participation in programs around the specific needs of the leader.

"These features clearly differentiate us in the market and truly reflect a new approach in designing and delivering executive education," Walsh said.

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"When we came together as a group, we quickly realized how much more we can accomplish with eight companies than what could be accomplished by any one organization or institution," said Mona Yezbak, corporate vice president of organizational effectiveness and customer satisfaction at Reynolds & Reynolds. "We were able to identify common requirements and can see that we can gain economies of scale. Outstanding courses can be delivered locally at very competitive prices."

"At Fifth Third Bank, we believe it's critical that our employees and the community have access to educational resources that will keep us informed of changes and inspire new ideas," said Dan Sadlier, president of Fifth Third Bank. "This new source of higher education will motivate our local work force to not only succeed, but continue to be nationally recognized leaders. We see the Center for Leadership and Executive Development as the catalyst that will assure an ongoing force of strong and innovative leadership in the greater Miami Valley for years to come."

Some organizations have in-house initiatives to develop leaders, and the center is expected to complement and supplement those programs. Dean Ruwe, president and chief operating officer at Copeland Corp., mentors a group of high-potential leaders, for example. "What the center will offer and what we accomplish in-house will strengthen our efforts to develop future leaders and, in turn, strengthen the future of the corporation," he said.

University President Fitz sees the Center for Leadership and Executive Development as strategic for the University and the community. "The University of Dayton has a long-standing commitment to leadership and service to the community," he said, "and we are uniquely positioned to lead this effort. We know that to be recognized as a national leader, we must be part of local and regional leadership programs that provide outstanding service to the community and to our partners within it. We believe that this is such a program."

"Through the nature of the partnership and the value it will bring to business leaders, our partners and the Miami Valley, we believe the center is of strategic importance to the

University. And we also benefit from being a partner of the center as we further build leadership capabilities in our own organization," Fitz said.

NCR was the first organization to sign on with the Center For Leadership and Executive development.

"NCR and the University of Dayton have had many partnerships in the past, but the center marks a new high for us," said Brad Luckhaupt, vice president of global learning at NCR. "We view it as a strategic enhancement to our ability to develop the leadership and executive skills we need for our success."

For information on programs and services offered by the Center for Leadership and Executive Development, contact Richard Walsh at (937) 229-3295 or via e-mail at walsh@udayton.edu.

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For media interviews, call **Rich Walsh** at (937) 229-3295.